

REMARKS

Applicants and their attorney thank the examiner for the many courtesies extended during the examiner interview held on July 14, 2008. During the interview, The Winrunner and Melamed references were discussed. It was pointed out how the present invention is different from the cited references.

Claims 1, 38 and 43 have been rewritten as new claims 50, 51 and 52.

In one embodiment of the present invention, as set forth in claim 50, a method transforms test cases that are converted from a source test script to an abstract representation is provided. Test cases are stored in abstract representations to generate test cases in any target environment script format to provide interoperability between automation tools and cross environment portability of test cases. Test cases are imported that are written in one or more scripting languages. Semantic analysis is used to convert test cases to an abstract representation that includes application state, external interaction sequences and input data without changing or deleting an original test case based on an application object model. The application object model is a metadata representation for a modeling application under test and includes components selected from application object type definitions for application objects, attribute definitions for each application object type, definitions of methods and events that are supported by each application object type and definitions of effects of events on an application state.

Support for the amendments is found in paragraph 0035 of the specification and in Figure 6.

Winrunner fails to, (i) transform test cases to an abstract representation, (ii) use semantic analysis to convert test cases to an abstract representation where the abstract representation includes application state, external interaction sequences and input data, (iii) convert test cases without changing or deleting an original test case based on an application object model, (iv) provide that an application object model is a metadata representation for a modeling application under test and includes components selected from application object type definitions for application objects, attribute definitions for each application object type, definitions of methods and events that are supported by each application object type and definitions of effects of events on an application state.

Winrunner creates tool dependency and reduces the ability to share tests. WinRunner does not use semantic analysis to covert test cases to abstract representation.

WinRunner supports two modes of development of test scripts, manual script development and recording of user interactions. In WinRunner, the tool records user interactions into a script form which can be played back to execute the test automatically without manual intervention. One of the disadvantages of this approach is that the scripts generated through recording are too fragile and requires additional manual efforts to ensure reusability for parameterization. Another disadvantage is that the scripts created using one tool will not run on another tool. This reduces the ability to share the test scripts with customer or vendors if they use a different tool.

With the present invention, the test scripts are converted to a platform independent format (abstract representation) and the test cases can be shared seamlessly. Test scripts can be rebuilt from abstract representation for multiple platforms, and the test cases can be executed in any platform from any vendor.

With WinRunner, application states, external interaction sequences (test steps) and data are mixed together within the scripts. It is very difficult to reuse or modify the test cases later as a result. This is distinguished from the present invention which uses abstract representation to distinguish these entities.

CONCLUSION

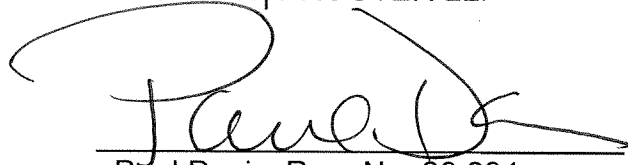
It is submitted that the present application is in form for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 07-1700 (Docket No. SYM-0002).

Respectfully submitted,

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